

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-11 NEA-14 RSC-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5745

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL BELIZE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS USUN 3491

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR GT UK BELIZE

SUBJ: GUATEMALAN FONMIN'S STATEMENT CONCERNING BELIZE

1. IN HIS REMARKS DURING GENERAL DEBATE ON SEP 26,
GUATEMALAN FONMIN ADOLFO MOLINA ORANTES MADE THE FOLLOWING
STATEMENT CONCERNING BELIZE:

QTE: THE OBSOLETE, ANACHRONISTIC SYSTEM OF COLONIALISM
STILL PERSISTS IN THE AMERICAS AND IN SOME ENCLAVES
OCCUPIED BY EXTRA HEMISPHERIC POWERS, DESPITE THE FACT THAT
SOVEREIGNTY OVER THEM LEGALLY BELONGS TO AMERICAN STATES.
SUCH IS THE CASE OF THE GUATEMALAN TERRITORY OF BELIZE,
THE RESTITUTION OF WHICH FROM THE POSSESSION OF THE UNITED
KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND HAS BEEN
DEMANDED BY MY COUNTRY FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY. THIS CLAIM
HAS BEEN MAINTAINED UNINTERRUPTEDLY, BASED AS IT IS ON
UNIMPEACHABLE LEGAL PRINCIPLES AND ALL KINDS OF EFFORTS
HAVE BEEN MADE, WITHIN THE CANONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW,
THE SEARCH FOR A SOLUTION.

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IN THE LAST 10 YEARS NEW ROADS HAVE BEEN ZEALOUSLY EXPLORED,

AND NUMEROUS FORMULAS HAVE BEEN TRIED IN AN EFFORT TO RECONCILE THE JUST CLAIMS OF THE GUATEMALAN NATION, AS WELL AS ITS LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OVER THE TERRITORY WHICH WAS TAKEN FROM IT, WITH THE VERY RESPECTABLE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF BELIZE, WHO ALSO ARE INTERESTED IN FREEING THEMSELVES FROM COLONIAL DOMINATION, AND TO WHOM MY GOVERNMENT REITERATES ITS FEELINGS OF SINCERE FRIENDSHIP AND OF RESPECT FOR THEIR LOCAL TRADITIONS AND INSTITUTIONS.

WE TRUST THAT THE DIALOGUE WILL CONTINUE BETWEEN THE PARTIES TO THIS CENTURY-LONG DISPUTE, WITH NO EFFORTS SPARED TOWARDS A SOLUTION THAT WOULD SATISFACTORILY RECONCILE GUATEMALA'S TERRITORIAL RIGHTS WITH THOSE OF THE PEOPLE OF BELIZE.

IN THE MEANTIME, UNTIL THERE IS SUCH AN UNDERSTANDING THAT WILL PERMANENTLY ENSURE THE PEACE OF THE REGION, GUATEMALA ONCE AGAIN EXPRESSES ITS DECISIVE RESERVATION WITH REGARD TO ITS SOVEREIGN RIGHT OVER THE TERRITORY OF BELIZE, AT PRESENT OCCUPIED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND. UNQTE.

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